

Page 1, after the title of the invention, please insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

B1

Page 1, lines 5-22 (second paragraph), please amend this paragraph as follows:

B2  
--A method and bank note processing machine for processing different groups of bank notes are known for example from JP 62-82493A. The different groups of bank notes correspond to deposits by different depositors which are separated by separator cards. The separator cards are inserted between the different deposits to separate them. The separator cards may be disposed at the beginning, the end or the beginning and end of the group of bank notes forming the particular deposit. The separator cards may contain information, for example, about the depositor and/or the deposit. Further, the separator cards are designed so as to be recognized automatically by the bank note processing machine during processing. When a separator card is recognized, the bank note processing machine can enter in the books the associated group of bank notes for the corresponding deposit or depositor. For recognizing the separator cards, the bank note processing machine has magnetic sensors which, on the one hand, are used for reading the information coded on a magnetic stripe on the separator cards. On the other hand, the signals of the sensors can be used to recognize the separator cards even when the latter are masked by bank notes, as may occur upon multiple removal. Thus it is ensured with relatively high probability that the separator cards are always recognized, so that at least the boundaries between individual deposits can be recognized.--

Page 2, between the second and third lines, please insert the following title:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

B3

Page 2, lines 11 and 12, delete in their entirety.

Page 3, between lines 4 and 5, please insert the following title:

-BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS-

B4

Page 3, between lines 18 and 19, please insert the following title:

-DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION-

B5

Page 7, lines 1-18, please amend these paragraphs as follows:

B6 --Figure 2 shows a first deposit consisting of separating means *TK1*, bank notes *BN1* to *BN6* and one information carrier *IK* located between bank notes *BN2* and *BN3*.

Figure 3 shows a second deposit consisting of separating means *TK2*, bank notes *BN7* to *BN12* and two information carriers *IK2* and *IK3*.

Figure 4 shows a third deposit consisting of separating means *TK4*, bank notes *BN13* to *BN15* and one information carriers *IK4*. Information carriers *IK4* is followed by a further deposit shown by separating means *TK5* and a dotted line in Figure 4.

Separating means *TK1* to *TK5* can be formed as separator cards, as shown in Figure 2 to 4. Separating means *TK1* to *TK5* are recognized by sensor device 112 with reference to specific properties, as described.

Information carriers *IK1* to *IK4* formed as information cards bear information, as described above. Separating means *TK1* to *TK5* serve only to separate the different deposits, whereas information cards *IK1* to *IK4* are used to provide the information required for processing. Information cards *IK1* to *IK4* may be of simple design, in particular they lack the special properties of separating means *TK1* to *TK5*. This permits corresponding information cards *IK1* to *IK4* to be already prepared and provided with the desired information by the depositor making the particular deposit.--

Application No. 09/718,473  
Examiner: K. NGUYEN  
Art Unit: 2876

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend Fig. 1 as shown in the attached red ink marked-up copies of the drawing. Approval of the drawing changes is respectfully requested.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please cancel the original Abstract of the Disclosure and substitute the appended ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.